

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 SY-10 USSS-00 EB-11 FAA-00

EA-11 M-03 A-01 SCA-01 RSR-01 /168 W

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R 081130Z AUG 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3556

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2372

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS NOTES

1. ATHENS AIRPORT ATTACK. CAIRO PRESS AUGUST 7-8 HAS
CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE REPORTING ON POST-ATTACK DEVELOP-
MENTS WHICH SUPPORTS VIEW THAT TERRORISTS EITHER (A)
BELONGED TO NO "LEGITIMATE" FEDAYEEN GROUP, OR
(B) HAVE BEEN ISRAELI AGENTS. AHRAH'S HEADLINE:
"OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION TO GREECE FROM
RESISTANCE OF NO CONNECTION WITH ATHENS INCIDENT."
AKHBAR CONCENTRATES ON "PUZZLE" OF "THIRD MAN" AT
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AIRPORT WHO WAS CONNECTED WITH ATTACK, BUT WHO LEFT

FOR TEL AVIV SHORTLY BEFORE IT OCCURRED. QUOTING AP REPORT, AKHBAR STATES THAT "NUMEROUS CIRCLES" HAVE BEGUN TO SUGGEST THAT ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE HAD ARRANGED ATTACK. NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS TAKE SIMILAR APPROACH, GENERALLY DISOWNING "SUSPECT GROUPS," CONDEMNED BY THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE, WHICH TERRORIZE INNOCENT PEOPLE (GUMHURIYYA), OR NOTING THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE ATHENS AIRPORT ATTACK WAS PLANNED BY ISRAEL (AKHBAR). AHAM'S AL-GAMMAL STATES THAT HE CAN SAY "ALMOST FLATLY THAT (THE ATHENS AIRPORT TERRORISTS) ARE NOT FEDAYEEN."

2. EGYPT/LIBYA. AUGUST 7 CAIRO PRESS REPORTED THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED DURING DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HATEM'S VISIT TO LIBYA ON UNITY STEPS TO BE TAKEN PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 1 REFERENDUM. AUGUST 8 PRESS REPORTS THAT FINAL TALKS BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND LIBYAN DELS WERE HELD AUGUST 7, AND THAT DRAFT STATEMENT WILL BE PREPARED FOR DISCUSSION BY UNIFIED POLITICAL COMMAND (I.E., SADAT AND QADHAAFI). WITHOUT GIVING FURTHER DETAILS, PRESS NOTES THAT MEETING BETWEEN SADAT AND QADHAAFI IS "IMMINENT."

3. IN INTERVIEW WITH AUGUST 8 AKHBAR, ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN STATED HIS "HOPE" FOR AN ARAB SUMMIT AT ALGIERS FOLLOWING NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER. RIAD SAID THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN DECIDED WHETHER KING FEISAL AND KING HUSSEIN WOULD ATTEND ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS, ALTHOUGH ALGERIANS WERE ANXIOUS FOR HUSSEIN'S PRESENCE. RIAD ADDED THAT AL HAS REORGANIZED ITSELF TO GIVE GREATER ATTENTION TO ARAB ECONOMIES AND IS EXPANDING ITS ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE. HE ALSO SAID THAT JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS CONSENTED TO ASSIGNMENT OF MUHAMMAD AL-FARRA AS SEC GEN'S ADVISOR FOR PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS.

4. AUGUST 7 PRESS NOTED THAT VP HUSSEIN AL-SHAFTI RECEIVED AUGUST 6 NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR, WHO GAVE SHAF'I LETTER TO SADAT FROM DPRK PRESIDENT. PRESS ON AUGUST 8 REPORTED THAT SHAF'I ACCEPTED INVITATION TO VISIT NORTH KOREA NEXT SEPTEMBER AND THAT EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION, UNDER ALI EL-SAID, PEOPLES ASSEMBLY DEPUTY SPEAKER, WILL LEAVE CAIRO ON AUGUST 14

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FOR WEEK-LONG VISIT TO NORTH KOREA.
WILEY

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30 JUN 2005

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